III. LISTING OF CLAIMS

All pending claims are reproduced below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 26. (Canceled)

Claim 27. (Previously presented): A method for updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing one or more sets of location settings encoded in an attachment;

opening the attachment to the e-mail; and

writing location values corresponding to the one or more sets of location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer, wherein the one or more sets of location settings are selectable during computer startup by the user.

Claim 28. (Previously presented): A method as in claim 27, wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and

wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

Claim 29. (Previously presented): A method as in claim 27, wherein the one or more sets of location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

Claim 30. (Previously presented): A method as in claim 29, further comprising the steps of:

determining an operating system type for the computer; and

generating the location values by interpreting the one or more sets of location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

Claim 31.   (Previously presented):   A method as in claim 30, wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the one or more sets of location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

Claim 32.   (Previously presented):   A method as in claim 31, wherein the one or more sets of location settings specify internet settings.

Claim 33.   (Previously presented):   A method as in claim 31, wherein the one or more sets of location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

Claim 34.   (Previously presented):   A method as in claim 31, wherein the one or more sets of location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.